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### WHEN THE "GRAND RUSH" COMES

Next to the hammering of the allied feet at the Dardanelles defenses, perhaps the most significant military event of recent weeks has been the British gain against the Germans on the western battle front, at Neuve Chapelle.

Not that the gain in itself was of great importance. It happens to have been the biggest advance made at any part of the long line since the Germans fell back from the Marne to the Aisne, but it would take scores of such victories to drive the Germans back to the Rhine.

It is the method that makes the capture of Neuve Chapelle of supreme significance. The British have proved once for all that German trenches, or any trenches, no matter how elaborately dug, covered and defended, are not impregnable. They have proved it by such a display of artillery fire as was never seen before in all the history of warfare. It was a victory won by incredibly heavy shelling, from concentrated field-guns and mortars.

All accounts agree that British artillery won a complete triumph, and won it simply because there was on the British side an immense superiority of gunpowder. It would be interesting to know just how many machine guns, field cannon and howitzers were assembled to pour their fire into that mile or two of trenches. There were enough, at any rate, so that in the noise of their discharge all individuality of guns and batteries was lost; separate "booms" were no more discernible than separate "cracks" when a battery of Gatling guns operates at full speed. There was only a vast roar, louder and more horrible than had ever been heard since the world began, a roar in which mingled all the boomings of the guns and the screaming of the shells in their flight and their explosion when they fell.

Thirty-five minutes of that belching uproar sufficed to do what six months of struggle had failed to do. While the cannonade lasted, the Germans cowered in their shelter-proof ditches and even, not daring even to raise their heads. When the firing ceased, the assailant rushed forward with their bayonets, according to the usual method, but there was scarcely anything for them to do. That tornado of fire and steel had wrought incredible havoc. The wide wire entanglements were swept away. The ground was torn as by titanic plowshares, and full of gaping holes—everywhere perilous footing, and heaps of earth, stones, concrete and timber smoking from the cordite bombs. The defender, those who were not torn by shrapnel or buried alive were mostly overwhelmed in the ruins of their trenches, lay yellowed by the noxious gases from the shells, and dazed by the din, incapable of resistance. In a few minutes the pursuers were masters of the three series of trenches.

It is so that the allies will sweep the invaders back into Germany—if they ever drive them back. Other means are unavailing against the trench defenses that this war has evolved. Campaigns become weary sieges. Against a maze of cleverly dug and protected ditches, masses of men hurt themselves in vain. But it is now demonstrated that the fortress-trenches can be blown to bits by siege-guns—that in open land-fighting, not the biggest guns as in sea-fighting, but the greatest quantity of shells delivered in a given area at one time, will win.

The British and French started at a disadvantage in armament. For eight months they have been feverishly making guns and ammunition. Now it is reported that they have the superiority.

Soon will come the great "drive" for which the allies have been planning all winter. Perhaps it has really started, though Lord Kitchener announced it for May. When it comes, great numbers of guns will be rushed to two or three strategic spots, and then there WILL be cannonading.

They may try to batter their way in on the extreme west, driving the Germans slowly eastward out of Belgium and northern France; or they may concentrate near Verdun, in an effort to cut the German line of communication from Metz, forcing the Germans to fight desperately on three sides at once or retreat into Germany.

### SHERMAN LAW AND "PERSONAL GUILT"

There doesn't seem to be much left of the good old Sherman law. First the United States supreme court modified it with the "rule of reason" and now a federal

court of appeals seems to have pulled its "personal guilt" teeth, by its decision in the celebrated National Cash-Register case.

It will be recalled that the conviction of 27 owners and employees of this corporation two years ago was hailed as conclusive proof, at last, that corporate guilt was personal, and that individuals guilty of illegal business methods could be punished under the Sherman act. Federal Judge Hollister, in sentencing the defendants, took occasion to remark that the penalties inflicted would serve as a warning to all other business men who might be tempted to improper practices. The testimony at the trial was to the effect that the Cash-Register company had enlarged its business by means of bribery and intimidation, espionage, vexatious litigation, misuse of patent laws and the harassing of rivals in other ways not usually considered honorable or just. Now, however, the reviewing court gives the defendant company a pretty clean bill of moral health, and hardly leaves enough of former Attorney General Wickersham's elaborate indictment to make a new trial worth while.

It may be just as well that the Cash Register people don't have to go to jail, after all, whether they deserve it or not. In the present mental state of American business, such a fate might have been interpreted as "persecution," and as a warning of nameless terrors to follow. At the same time, it is probably just as well that a new business-regulating law passed by congress last year, to supplement the Sherman act, provides genuine and unquestionable authority for holding individual members of a corporation responsible hereafter for corporate ill-doing.

However desirable it may be to reassure Big Business that Government has no animus against it, it is no less desirable to insure a square deal to Little Business, and to exact from corporations the same obedience to law that we expect from individual citizens.

### SPEEDING UP AGRICULTURE

Now the audit corn growers, apparently alarmed by the success of boys' corn clubs throughout the country, are starting in to wrest the laurels from their sons. Kansas, the corn state par excellence, is planning a special competition to increase the quantity and decrease the cost of its output.

The men have made the minimum acre limit for competitors 1/2. They want to have at least a moderate run for their money, as they probably wouldn't have in a free field, with ambitious sixteen-year-olds against them.

The rules call for "contest plots" of five acres each, as nearly rectangular as possible, in any part of a regular field. The farmers will simply make a special effort on that particular plot of ground to apply all the agricultural theory and experience he has. He is also expected to apply considerable energy, but brains are considered more important than mere work. The labor expended is to be figured in at the rate of 20 cents an hour for the competitor or his hired help, and 10 cents an hour must be allowed for each horse. The crop will be judged on a basis of 40 points for the amount of yield, 40 points for the cost of production, 10 points for the itemized record of cost, and 10 for an exhibit at county fair. In reckoning the cost, the farmer must not neglect to figure the rental of the ground, which is put at \$2 to \$4 an acre, according to location.

It would pay to inaugurate such contests in every state of the union, for corn and other important crops. They increase the output of foodstuffs, they introduce scientific methods of crop-growing far more effectively than can be done by mere preaching or theorizing, and they make farmers more businesslike by getting them into the habits of keeping books and finding out what their crops cost them.

### THE CONSUMER'S "GOAT"

Railroads of the east and west have got outrageous freight rates. Now they are asking for higher passenger fares, and all roads demand additions to the rates for transporting meat.

Very likely the increases are all deserved. Very likely, too, they would contribute, in certain ways, to the country's business recovery. A fly appears in the ointment, however, when the consumer begins to ponder who the shipper, is the man that really has to foot the bill, what such re-adjustments mean to him. He, rather than the shipper or dealer, is the man that really has to foot the bill. And while he's willing to pay all legitimate charges according to his ability, it certainly does tend to "grive him of his goat" to observe how such additional expenses are usually multiplied by the time they dribble down to him.

An extra freight charge of three cents a hundred pounds for meat may become half a cent, or even a cent, a pound in the corner meat shop. After a recent coal strike was settled by raising the miners' wages six cents a ton, the coal dealers collected an extra half-dollar a ton from the consumer. The same sort of mathematics was applied lately in many cities to repay bankers and millers for the higher cost of wheat.

These are rather discouraging times anyhow, for the consumers of fixed or lessened income. On all sides there is gentle pressure tending to elevate the cost of necessities. A little here and a little there, a trifling surcharge for taxes, for railroad fares, for freight charges, for rent, for education, for many articles of food and clothing, altogether makes a disheartening addition to the family budget and narrows the margin of saving or comfort. And still the consumer stands for it, on the whole, good-naturedly, in the thoroughly American conviction that "times are going to get better."

## NURSE WARNS WOMEN AGAINST WAR WORK

YOUNG AMERICAN VOLUNTEER SAYS STRAIN ON NERVES AND PHYSIQUE IS TERRIBLE.

LONDON, March 22.—A young American woman who volunteered for service as a Red Cross nurse in Serbia two months ago, has written letters to friends in London, urging them against following her example unless they are sure that their nerves and physique can stand the strain. "Many of the volunteer nurses collapse after a week or two," she says, "and the strongest of us are quite certain that we shall have to give it up after two or three months or else go mad."

"Our hospital is not a large building, but we have 1,300 patients and have to inspect 500 fresh cases each day. The congestion of the whole place is so terrible that major operations frequently have to be performed in the wards with all the other patients around."

"The hospital is close to the railway, and men sent from the battlefield are brought in (some dressed in civilian clothes) and are confined their journeys to other towns. I call the dressing room the hall of horrors. In it are nine tables of agony and there are benches all around on which sit the other men waiting to have their wounds dressed."

"The hall throbs with cries, groans, and shrieks of pain, rising sometimes to crescendo that the strongest nerves cannot endure."

"We have seen none of the glory of war—only the horrors and suffering of the soldiers and the civil population too. But I am sure no story can compensate for all this. To see the refugee children and the wounded men and the suffering women in worse than any nightmare penitence could dream."

"I asked a man nearly cured when he was going home. 'I have no home,' he answered wearily, 'my home was a Shabatz, the enemy has destroyed it; my wife and children are dead.' Alas, the name of the place for various reasons, and that is the answer you will get nine times out of ten. One can only be silent before such sorrow."

"I have been up to Belgrade for three days to visit my nerves. It is a desolate city. Normally there are 120,000 inhabitants; now there are about 8,000 returned. I visited the authorities until I got permission to visit the Palace. The enemy's guns had cut the roof of it very well, destroyed its aviary, burnt and gone through the roof of the library and wrecked the library and throne room. The chapel royal which had been made a sort of headquarters for the enemy's publishers, was in an indescribable state of chaos. Clothes, china, stained birds, pictures, state papers, and thousands of other things were littered about. In one corner was a collection of unnumbered boxes of all sorts of medicines for the cure of rheumatism, which the doctors had brought from the royal apartments—the old king is a martyr of rheumatism and has apparently tried everything that is sold anywhere for it."

"It is an interesting fact that in the population of Serbia, men have always predominated considerably, and even this war, with its hideous losses, will only balance the proportion of sexes."

### PYRAMID CLIMBERS KILLED

CAIRO, March 22.—Four men of the Australian contingent in Egypt have been killed in the attempt to climb the Cheops pyramid.

Three other men are in a hospital at Meina suffering from injuries as the result of falls from the big pyramid. One has so injured his spine that he will have to be conveyed back to Australia on a water-bed and remain on his back for the rest of his life.

### FITZGERALD URGES READJUSTMENT OF NATION'S FINANCES



John J. Fitzgerald.

In his final statement on the subject of revenue and expenditures for the last session of the sixty-third congress, just made public, Chairman John J. Fitzgerald of the house committee on appropriations urged an adjustment of the finances of the federal government. He pointed out that the expenditures of the government exceeded its revenues during the current fiscal year to March 31 by \$100,151,475.

## THE BENEVOLENT JAP



## HALF MILLION YUMA ROAD BONDS SOLD

COUNTY NOW READY FOR WORK AND WANTS MARICOPA'S CO-OPERATION.

PHOENIX, March 22.—Superior The Probation of Yuma and J. M. Eddy, a business man of Yuma, came to the city yesterday on a road bond grand bargain. He said that a good road bond of Yuma county to the amount of \$500,000 had been sold and that the work of class thoroughfares would soon be under way.

Their object in coming was to secure the cooperation of Maricopa county. For that purpose a meeting was arranged to be held at the chamber of commerce rooms late yesterday afternoon.

Members, President and Eddy, said that the funds derived from the bonds had been allowed yet, but that one of the principal roads to be improved and brought to standard would be the road from Yuma to Phoenix. There will be plenty of money left for the most badly needed roads of Yuma county.

The present road from Phoenix to Yuma is a difficult one in many places and the difficult places are about evenly divided between the two counties. The Yuma delegates said that while there is a need of money on the part of the county to build the Yuma county end of the road, it would be done with a great deal more enthusiasm if it were known that Maricopa county would also be built.

It was expected that the members of the board of supervisors of this county would be present at the meeting but they were all out of town. Therefore there were present at the meeting, only the directors, the state engineer and others interested in the road work.

Nothing was definitely agreed upon but the chamber will do what it can to match the efforts of Yuma county.

Other matters that came before the board of directors of the chamber yesterday were a communication from Secretary Shapinsbury of the fair commission asking the cooperation of the chamber in plans for the fair, especially in the matter of a more equitable distribution of the boxes and suggestion for the relief of the directors to Tucson during the southern fair.

### TELLER STOLE \$4700 TO FINANCE HIS HONEYMOON

TOLEDO, O., Mar. 22.—A suspended sentence of five years in Fort Leavenworth federal prison was the penalty imposed today by Federal Judge Killins on James J. Henshaw, former bank teller in the second National bank here, after Henshaw had pleaded guilty of embezzling \$4700 to finance his wedding trip. The shortage has been paid by friends.

### ALLOW SHORE LEAVE

NEWPORT NEWS, March 22.—Oficers and sailors from the German converted cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich will be given shore leave when accompanied by escort from Fort Monroe according to officers from Washington. Some of them will set foot on land for the first time since the Eitel began her commerce raiding career last August.

## CASH PAID OUT IS OFTEN

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